

News Release



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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HELP WANTED:

Applicants must live, work at the nicest places on earth

SACRAMENTO – The California Department of Parks and Recreation is looking for a few good Rangers. Quite a few.

Scores of Rangers are reaching retirement age in the next few years, so State Parks is moving forward with recruitment efforts to fill those positions immediately.

“This is an excellent opportunity for young people to pursue an exciting and rewarding career,” said Ruth Coleman, Acting Director of California State Parks. “Just talk to some of our Rangers. They will tell you they have the best job on the planet.

“Our Rangers earn excellent pay and benefits, and get to live and work in some of the most beautiful places there are,” she said.

The Department has scheduled examinations this winter for potential State Park Ranger positions. Successful applicants will earn pay while undergoing peace officer training. State Park Rangers are fully trained peace officers.

In order to qualify to take the State Park Ranger examination, applicants must have successfully completed two years (60 semester units) of study at an accredited college or university, including a minimum of 21 semester units satisfying the General Education Curriculum standards. They must be at least 18 years old, citizens of the United States and must not have any felony convictions on their records.

Deadline for application is no later than Nov. 22, 2002. To apply for a State Park Ranger Cadet examination, applicants must complete a state job application (Std. 678) found on the “jobs” section of the State Parks website (www.parks.ca.gov) or call 1-866-PARKJOBS to request an informational application packet.

The examination for State Park Ranger is a five-phase process, consisting of:

- A written examination, which will be held in various places throughout California on January 11, 2003.
- Oral interviews in March 2003.
- Physical agility testing in May 2003
- Medical evaluation/drug testing, as well as background investigations, to be conducted at the end of the process.

Once all applicants have successfully completed all phases of the examination, they are invited to attend the Department's 26-week paid academy where the cadets train to become certified peace officers, as well as receive specialized training in the State Park System. Once the cadets have graduated, they are then placed in one of the locations they have chosen.

The salary range for Cadets during training is \$2,742 to \$3,132 per month. The beginning salary for rangers is \$2,752 to \$3,276 per month, not counting other incentives.

State Parks offers Rangers excellent benefits, including paid medical, dental vision coverage, and vacation and sick leave. Rangers also receive generous peace officer retirement benefits.

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